

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA
THIRTEEN HUNDRED LOCUST STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107

October 6, 1993

Thomas Serfass
Mercantile Money Museum
Mercantile Tower
Seventh & Washington
St. Louis, MO 63101

Dear Mr. Serfass:

Thank you for your letter and check for the research services of the Historical Society.

In response to your request for information on Joseph J. Mickley, we have found the enclosed information.

This information includes: A short biographical sketch of Mr. Mickley. Copies of a few pages from Minnie Mickley's compilation including the title page of a detailed biographical sketch on Joseph J. Mickley (too lengthy to copy). Copies of the title page and several interesting pages by Joseph J. Mickley regarding his great grandfather (John Jacob Mickley).

Our search did not reveal any information by "Bird" on Mr. Mickley. There is no trace of a diary supposedly kept by Mr. Mickley.

I hope this information will be of some assistance with your research.

Yours truly,

R. M. M. H. D.

Rose Mary McKeown
Research Assistant

W
99
V4

1860
Wood



JOSEPH J. MICKLEY.

THE INTERESTING CAREER OF A LINGUIST, ANTIQUARIAN AND MUSICIAN.

"MR. JOSEPH J. MICKLEY, who died suddenly on Friday evening, February 15, at the house of Dr. J. A. Meigs, on Spruce Street, above Broad, was well known both in this country and Europe for his antiquarian tastes. On the night of his death he had started out to visit Mr. Oliver Hopkinson, at 1424 Spruce Street, but feeling a sudden oppression he stopped at the house of Dr. Meigs, for many years his physician, where he expired half an hour afterward. The doctors declare fatty degeneration of the heart to have been the cause of his death.

"Mr. Mickley was born in Lehigh county, of 'Pennsylvania Dutch' stock, on March 24, 1799. Sixty years ago he came to this city and learned piano-making. Later, he engaged in this business on his own account, and was so employed until 1869. Many years since he began collecting curious coins of all nations, and in time had the most valuable collection in the United States. In 1867 he was robbed of \$16,000 worth of coins, and a short time afterward he sold the rest of his collection for a like sum. Two years later he went to Europe, whither his fame as an antiquarian had preceded him, and was warmly received there. He remained abroad three years, traveling through all parts of England and the Continent. While in Europe he perfected himself in the Swedish language, and became deeply interested in books and manuscripts bearing upon the early Swedish settlements in America. In addition to his collection of coins, Mr. Mickley possessed a large library of rare and curious books in many languages. He had a number of very old directories of Philadelphia and other cities, containing the names and residences of Washington, Jefferson, and other distinguished Revolutionary patriots. He had also many volumes relating to the history of Pennsylvania, and at the time of his death was translating a Swedish manuscript upon the same subject, in anticipation of publishing a work upon the early annals of the State. He was an acknowledged musical critic, and was said to be the best master of musical instruments in the United States. Ole Bull was his intimate friend, and his house was for many years the resort of antiquarians, musicians and historians from all parts of the world. It was he who discovered that the violin which Ole Bull had bought for a Gaspar Desala was a counterfeit. Among his musical treasures was an autograph composition of Beethoven. Besides being extensively acquainted with European history and literature, Mr. Mickley could speak fluently French, German, and Swedish. He was very simple in his ways, and, while firm in his convictions and keen in his judgment of men, he was singularly gentle and lovable. Mr. Mickley was the first president of the Numismatic Society, and a well-known member both of the Franklin Institute and the Pennsylvania Historical Society. For some time past his books have been packed away. He was, however, making alterations in a house on Wood Street, near Franklin, where he could have his library about him, when death stepped in to cut short a life spent in quiet study and refined enjoyment."

The foregoing notice appeared in one of the Philadelphia papers, and (after a few corrections) is accurate and well informed. Allow me to add a few items, at random, without the formality of an Obituary or Eulogy. It is true he was "born of Pennsylvania Dutch Stock," but his language

THE GENEALOGY
OF THE
MICKLEY FAMILY
OF AMERICA

TOGETHER WITH A BRIEF GENEALOGICAL RECORD OF THE MICHELET
FAMILY OF METZ, AND SOME INTERESTING AND VALUABLE
CORRESPONDENCE, BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES,
OBITUARIES AND HISTORICAL
MEMORABILIA

COMPILATION BY

MINNIE F. MICKLEY

MICKLEYS, PENNSYLVANIA

1893



THE COAT OF ARMS OF THE
FAMILY MICHELET.

MOTTO—WAR, THE CHASE AND LIBERTY.



THE LATE JOSEPH J. MICKLEY,
OF PHILADELPHIA, PA.

JOSEPH J. MICKLEY

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

BY HIS FRIEND

J. BUNTING

AS PUBLISHED IN LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE OF JULY, 1885,

AND NOW REPRODUCED BY KIND PERMISSION

OF J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO.

3393

BRIEF ACCOUNT

OF

MURDERS BY THE INDIANS,

AND

THE CAUSE THEREOF,

IN

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENN'A.,

October 8th, 1783.

BY JOS. J. MICKLEY.

PHILADELPHIA:

THOMAS WILLIAM STUCKEY, PRINTER,
55 NORTH SEVENTH STREET.

1875

TO THE MEMORY OF

John Jacob Mickley and his Descendants

THESE PAGES ARE

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED BY HIS GREAT GRANDSON

The Author.

—

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1875, by
JOSEPH J. MICKLEY,
in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

STUCKEY.. PRINTER, 57 NORTH SEVENTH STREET.



PREFACE.

AGREEABLY to invitation, a large number of the descendants of JOHN JACOB MICKLEY (the first of that name in America) assembled on the farm, formerly his property, in North Whitehall Township, Lehigh County, where the Indians murdered two of his children, and also the family of John Schneider, on the adjoining farm, the 8th of October, 1763. In commemoration of that event, the following paper was prepared and read, October 8th, 1863. At that time I had no intention of publishing the same, but having been repeatedly urged by some of my relations and several esteemed friends, finally concluded to have it printed: it may, however, be of little or no interest, except perhaps to some of the numerous descendants of our ancestor JOHN JACOB MICKLEY.

In connection with this, it may not be out of place, and acceptable to some, to give such information of our